

Message Text

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: AUGUST 3 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

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1. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT DEVELOP-
M:NT OF LONG-RANGE EUROPEAN THEATER MOBILE BALLISTIC MIS-
SILE SYSTEM FOR USE BY U.S. AND ITS NATO ALLIES HAS BEEN
AUTHORIZED BY HOUSE AND SENATE CONFEREES IN FISCAL 1979
DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL. MISSILE ENVISIONED BY CONFER-
EES WOULD HAVE MUCH GREATER RANGE THAN PERSHING, WITH
STATED RANGE OF 400 MILES, AND WOULD BE ABLE TO HIT TARGETS

IN SOVIET UNION, PINCUS SAID. HE REPORTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES SAY PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM IS BEING PUSHED TO COUNTER NEW SOVIET SS-20 MOBILE MISSILE. ONE ADMINISTRATION SOURCE SAID AN INTERAGENCY STUDY OF THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS UNDER WAY AND WILL LEAD TO PRESIDENTIAL DECISION THIS FALL ON WHAT WEAPONS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED, PINCUS REPORTED. HE QUOTED ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL AS SAYING "IT LOOKS LIKE CONGRESS IS TRYING TO GET INTO THIS POLICYMAKING OPERATION BEFORE IT IS FINISHED."

2. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED THAT SENATE-HOUSE CONFEREES AGREED ON 20.6 MILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM TO STUDY USE OF B-1 BOMBER AND SEVERAL OTHER MILITARY AND CIVILIAN TRANSPORT PLANES AS POSSIBLE CARRIERS OF CRUISE MISSILES. CONFEREES STIPULATED THAT NONE OF STUDY MONEY IS TO BE USED FOR ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE MISSILE CARRIER OTHER THAN B-52 BOMBER. STUDY IS PART OF 36.9 BILLION DOLLAR MILITARY PROCUREMENT BILL.

3. ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL FEATURED COMMENTS BY ACDA DIRECTOR PAUL WARNKE AND SENATOR ROBERT DOLE ON "PROS AND CONS OF SALT." WARNKE SAID "SALT IS NO FAVOR TO RUSSIANS. SALT HAS TO BE IN INTERESTS OF SECURITY OF U.S. IF IT IS, WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH IT REGARDLESS OF OUR DISAPPROVAL OF SOVIET ACTIONS ELSEWHERE." ACDA DIRECTOR SAID ANY SAMPLING OF PUBLIC OPINION HAS ALWAYS DEMONSTRATED "VERY, VERY SUB-UNCLASSIFIED

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STANTIAL SUPPORT FOR ARMS CONTROL." SALT, HE DECLARED, "DOES HAVE A VERY LOYAL CONSTITUENCY AND IT WILL BE SUPPORTED." BUT DOLE STRESSED THAT RECENT INSTANCES OF DIRECT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR AGGRESSION IN AFRICA "DO DIMINISH LIKELIHOOD OF ANY SALT AGREEMENT IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. WHILE IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT OUR REFUSAL TO CONCLUDE NEW SALT AGREEMENT WOULD NECESSARILY DISCOURAGE SOVIET ADVENTURES, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR SOVIETS TO REALIZE THAT THESE UNPROVOKED AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS UNDERMINE THEIR CREDIBILITY AS FORCE FOR PEACE." DOLE SAID THERE IS "INEVITABLE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOVIET AGGRESSION AND SALT TWO TREATY." SOVIET AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS "UNDERMINE U.S. PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR BILATERAL ACCORDS SUCH AS SALT TWO TREATY," DOLE EXPLAINED. VANCE

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